BEFORE THE BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

DARCIE BLITHE PENDERGRAFT a.k.a. DARCIE MCCRACKEN 2348 Willona Park Eugene, OR 97408

Registered Nurse License No. 628104

RESPONDENT

Case No. 2012-470

DEFAULT DECISION AND ORDER

[Gov. Code, §11520]

FINDINGS OF FACT

- On or about February 22, 2012, Complainant Louise R. Bailey, M.Ed., RN, in her 1. official capacity as the Interim Executive Officer of the Board of Registered Nursing, Department of Consumer Affairs, filed Accusation No. 2012-470 against Darcie Blithe Pendergraft, aka Darcie McCracken (Respondent) before the Board of Registered Nursing. (Accusation attached as Exhibit A.)
- 2. On or about October 17, 2003, the Board of Registered Nursing (Board) issued Registered Nurse License No. 628104 to Respondent. The Registered Nurse License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and expired on November 30, 2007 and has not been renewed.
- On or about February 22, 2012, Respondent was served by Certified and First Class 3: Mail copies of the Accusation No. 2012-470, Statement to Respondent, Notice of Defense, Request for Discovery, and Government Code sections 11507.5, 11507.6, and 11507.7 to Respondent's address of record which, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 136 and/Title 16, California Code of Regulation, section 1409.1, is required to be reported and maintained with the Board, which was and is:

2348 Willona Park

Eugene, OR 97408.

- 4. Service of the Accusation was effective as a matter of law under the provisions of Government Code section 11505, subdivision (c) and/or Business & Professions Code section 124.
- 5. On or about March 5, 2012 and March 7, 2012, the Certified Mail documents and the First Class Mail documents were returned, both marked by the U.S. Postal Service, "Attempted Not Known." The address on the documents was the same as the address on file with the Board. Respondent failed to maintain an updated address with the Board and the Board has made attempts to serve the Respondent at the address on file. Respondent has not made herself available for service and therefore, has not availed herself of her right to file a notice of defense and appear at hearing.
 - 6. Business and Professions Code section 2764 states:

The lapsing or suspension of a license by operation of law or by order or decision of the board or a court of law, or the voluntary surrender of a license by a licentiate shall not deprive the board of jurisdiction to proceed with an investigation of or action or disciplinary proceeding against such license, or to render a decision suspending or revoking such license.

- 7. Government Code section 11506 states, in pertinent part:
- (c) The respondent shall be entitled to a hearing on the merits if the respondent files a notice of defense, and the notice shall be deemed a specific denial of all parts of the accusation not expressly admitted. Failure to file a notice of defense shall constitute a waiver of respondent's right to a hearing, but the agency in its discretion may nevertheless grant a hearing.
- 8. Respondent failed to file a Notice of Defense within 15 days after service of the Accusation upon her, and therefore waived her right to a hearing on the merits of Accusation No. 2012-470.
 - 9. California Government Code section 11520 states, in pertinent part:
- (a) If the respondent either fails to file a notice of defense or to appear at the hearing, the agency may take action based upon the respondent's express admissions or upon other evidence and affidavits may be used as evidence without any notice to respondent.

10. Pursuant to its authority under Government Code section 11520, the Board after having reviewed the proof of service dated February 22, 2012, signed by Aaron Hanson, and the returned envelopes finds Respondent is in default. The Board will take action without further hearing and, based on Accusation No. 2012-470 and the documents contained in Default Decision Investigatory Evidence Packet in this matter which includes:

Exhibit 1: Pleadings offered for jurisdictional purposes; Accusation No. 2012-470,
Statement to Respondent, Notice of Defense (two blank copies), Request
for Discovery and Discovery Statutes (Government Code sections
11507.5, 11507.6 and 11507.7), proof of service; and if applicable, mail
receipt or copy of returned mail envelopes;

Exhibit 2: License History Certification for Darcie Blithe Pendergraft, aka Darcie McCracken, Registered Nurse License No. 628104;

Exhibit 3: Affidavit of Kami Pratab;

Exhibit 4: Out of State Discipline (Nevada Board of Nursing);

Exhibit 5: Declaration of costs by Office of the Attorney General for prosecution of Case No. 2012-470.

The Board finds that the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 2012-470 are separately and severally true and correct by clear and convincing evidence.

11. Taking official notice of Certification of Board Costs and the Declaration of Costs by the Office of the Attorney General contained in the Default Decision Investigatory Evidence Packet, pursuant to the Business and Professions Code section 125.3, it is hereby determined that the reasonable costs for Investigation and Enforcement in connection with the Accusation are \$890.00 as of April 10, 2012.

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DETERMINATION OF ISSUES

- 1. Based on the foregoing findings of fact, Respondent Darcie Blithe Pendergraft, aka Darcie McCracken has subjected her following license(s) to discipline:
 - a. Registered Nurse License No. 628104
 - 2. The agency has jurisdiction to adjudicate this case by default.
- 3. The Board of Registered Nursing is authorized to revoke Respondent's license(s) based upon the following violations alleged in the Accusation, which are supported by the evidence contained in the Default Decision Investigatory Evidence Packet in this case.
 - a. Violation of Business and Professions Code section 2761(a)(4) Disciplinary action by another State Board of Nursing.

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ORDER

IT IS SO ORDERED that Registered Nurse License No. 628104, heretofore issued to Respondent Darcie BlithePendergraft, aka Darcie McCracken is revoked.

Pursuant to Government Code section 11520, subdivision (c), Respondent may serve a written motion requesting that the Decision be vacated and stating the grounds relied on within seven (7) days after service of the Decision on Respondent. The agency in its discretion may vacate the Decision and grant a hearing on a showing of good cause, as defined in the statute.

This Decision shall become effective on July 27, 2012

It is so ORDERED June 29, 2012



Board of Registered Nursing Department of Consumer Affairs State of California

Attachment:

Exhibit A: Accusation No. 2012-470

Accusation No. 2012-470

			•
1	KAMALA D. HARRIS Attorney General of California		• • •
2	FRANK H. PACOE Supervising Deputy Attorney General		
3	LESLIE E. BRAST	• •	
4	Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 203296		
5	455 Golden Gate Avenue, Suite 11000 San Francisco, CA 94102-7004		
6	Telephone: (415) 703-5548 Facsimile: (415) 703-5480		
7	Attorneys for Complainant		
8	LYDIA ZANE, Senior Legal Analyst Telephone: (415) 703-5573		
9	Facsimile: (415) 703-5480		
10	BEFORE THE BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING		
11	DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA		
12	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 2012 - 470	
13	DARCIE BLITHE PENDERGRAFT,	ACCUSATION	
14	aka DARCIE MCCRACKEN 2348 Willona Park		•
15	Eugene, OR 97408		
16	Registered Nurse License No. 628104		; ;
17	Respondent.		
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20	Complein and allegans		
	Complainant alleges:		
21	<u>PARTIES</u>		
22	1. Louise R. Bailey, M.Ed., RN (Complainant), brings this Accusation solely in her		
23	official capacity as the Interim Executive Officer of the Board of Registered Nursing (Board),		
24	Department of Consumer Affairs.		
25	2. On or about October 17, 2003, the Board issued Registered Nurse License Number		
26	628104 to Darcie Blithe Pendergraft, aka Darcie McCracken (Respondent). The Registered		
27	Nurse License was in full force and effect at all times relevant herein. It expired on November		
28	30, 2007, and has not been renewed.		
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JURISDICTION

- 3. This Accusation is brought before the Board under the authority of the following laws. All section references are to the Business and Professions Code (Code) unless otherwise indicated.
- 4. Code section 2750 provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may discipline any licensee, including a licensee holding a temporary or an inactive license, for any reason provided in Article 3 (commencing with section 2750) of the Nursing Practice Act.
- 5. Code section 2764 provides that the expiration of a license shall not deprive the Board of jurisdiction to proceed with a disciplinary proceeding against the licensee or to render a decision imposing discipline on the license. Under section 2811(b) of the Code, the Board may renew an expired license at any time within eight years after the expiration.

STATUTORY PROVISIONS

- 6. Code section 2761 states that the Board may take disciplinary action against a certified or licensed nurse for any of the following:
 - "(a) Unprofessional conduct, which includes, but is not limited to, the following:
- "(4) Denial of licensure, revocation, suspension, restriction, or any other disciplinary action against a health care professional license or certificate by another state or territory of the United States, by any other government agency, or by another California health care professional licensing board. A certified copy of the decision or judgment shall be conclusive evidence of that action."

CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES/DANGEROUS DRUGS

- 7. Code section 4021 states that a "'Controlled substance' means any substance listed in Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 11053) of Division 10 of the Health and Safety Code."
- 8. Code section 4022 sets forth that a "Dangerous drug' or 'dangerous device' means any drug or device unsafe for self-use in humans or animals, and includes the following:
- "(a) Any drug that bears the legend: 'Caution: federal law prohibits dispensing without prescription,' 'Rx only' or words of similar import.

Accusation